

July 18, 2017

**ACTION:**

Request for Review Editors nominations for the 2<sup>nd</sup> State of the Carbon Cycle Report (SOCCR-2)

**SUMMARY:** The Carbon Cycle Interagency Working Group (CCIWG) and the U.S. Carbon Cycle Science Program, on behalf of the U.S. Global Change Research Program, is soliciting nominations for Review Editors for the 2<sup>nd</sup> State of the Carbon Cycle Report (SOCCR-2). Nominees must have demonstrated technical expertise such that the nominees could contribute to the development of a robust scientific, technical assessment as subject matter experts in one or more of the topics listed in the prospectus. Current or past SOCCR-2 writing team members cannot serve as Review Editors and should not be nominated. Refer to the SOCCR-2 background, prospectus, Table of Contents and list of writing team members (accessible via <https://www.carboncyclescience.us/state-carbon-cycle-report-soccr>) for a sense of the areas of expertise we seek and pertinent details. The report will adhere to the Information Quality Act requirements ([http://www.cio.noaa.gov/services\\_programs/info\\_quality.html](http://www.cio.noaa.gov/services_programs/info_quality.html)) for quality, transparency, and accessibility as appropriate for a Highly Influential Scientific Assessment (HISA).

**DATES:** Nominations should be submitted via the web address specified below and must be received by July 30, 2017.

**ADDRESSES and INSTRUCTIONS:**

Nominations for Review Editors must be submitted electronically via a web form accessible on this page: <https://www.carboncyclescience.us/news/soccr-2-review-editors-nominations>. Nominees will identify their areas of expertise based on SOCCR-2 topics. A short CV/resume of no more than 4 pages must be included. See 'Supplementary Information' below for detailed description of selected Review Editors' functions. The nomination form can be accessed via <https://www.carboncyclescience.us/news/soccr-2-review-editors-nominations>. Interested persons may nominate themselves or third parties, and may nominate more than one person.

Each nomination must include:

(1) The nominee's full name, title, institutional affiliation, and contact information; (2) the nominee's area(s) of expertise; (3) a short description of his/her qualifications relative to contributing to the report; (4) a current brief resume/CV [maximum length four (4) pages]; and (5) a selection of three to four SOCCR-2 chapter(s) for which he/she is interested and qualified in serving as Review Editor.

Response to this notice is voluntary. Responses to this notice may be used by the CCIWG, U.S. Carbon Cycle Science Program, the USGCRP or the U.S. Government for program planning on a non-attribution basis. We therefore requests that no business proprietary information or copyrighted information be submitted in response to this notice. Please note that the CCIWG, U.S. Carbon Cycle Science Program, the USGCRP or the U.S. Government will not pay for response preparation, or for the use of any information contained in the response.

**Acknowledgments:** Along with the Lead Authors, the Science Leads and the Federal Steering Committee, Review Editors will be listed on the title page of the full volume. Review Editors will also be credited on chapter title pages, along with Chapter Leads, relevant authors, and Contributors.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Dr. Gyami Shrestha, U.S. Carbon Cycle Science Program Office at the U.S. Global Change Research Program, [gshrestha@usgcrp.gov](mailto:gshrestha@usgcrp.gov) and Dr. Nancy Cavallaro, U.S. Department of Agriculture, National Institute of Food and Agriculture, [ncavallaro@nifa.usda.gov](mailto:ncavallaro@nifa.usda.gov).

## **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

Background information and additional details on SOCCR-2 can be found at <https://www.carboncyclescience.us/state-carbon-cycle-report-soccr> and in the attached Appendices. This notice seeks nominations for Review Editors to SOCCR-2 with pertinent subject matter expertise and scientific background. Potential nominees should be accomplished scientists and/or science communicators with carbon-related proficiency in at least one of the topics, outlined in the SOCCR-2 Table of Contents, (See Appendix 3 below, also accessible via <https://www.carboncyclescience.us/state-carbon-cycle-report-soccr>). Responses to this request for nominations for Review Editors must be submitted by July 30, 2017.

**Function:** To ensure a robust and transparent review process, experts are solicited to serve as assessment Review Editors (REs) through this call. Nominees will be vetted and selected by the SOCCR-2 Federal Steering Committee. For assigned chapter(s), REs ensure that all substantive comments submitted during the Public Comment Period and via a National Academy of Sciences (NAS) panel review are appropriately addressed, advising Chapter Leads how to handle contentious issues and ensuring that genuine controversies are reflected adequately in the text. REs should neither broker suggested edits between authors and reviewers, nor substitute their own judgment in lieu of that of authors. REs should not provide additional comments on assigned draft chapters, but should instead focus on the materials derived from the Public Comment Period and NAS reviews. REs ensure that each and every comment has been considered by the author team, and that the 'annotation' (i.e., written responses to comments) indicates the explicit action taken by the team, including the scientific or logical rationale for said action. REs help the Chapter Leads ensure that the response to each review comment matches the final text of the revised, post-public/NAS review draft. Given the potential for staggered availability of the public comments and the NAS recommendations, the SOCCR-2 Federal Steering Committee and USGCRP leadership recognize that edits may be at cross-purposes and the annotations may need to be revisited.

**Resources:** The SOCCR-2 draft, the public review comments collation, the NAS review report, and any necessary supporting files will be made available to the selected review editors via the password-protected SOCCR-2 author portal. Accounts will be generated when appointments are accepted.

### **Review Editor Tasks:**

1. Become familiar with content of assigned chapter(s) within the context of the full report.
2. Review all comments submitted on assigned chapter(s) from both the public and National Academies review periods, to include specific text/reference/graphics suggestions and whole chapter comments. Focus on sections where the review comments are inconsistent or contradictory, where considerable rewriting will be necessary, and where significant scientific controversies exist.
3. Work directly with chapter authors, as necessary, to ensure appropriate adjudication of comments is achieved.
4. Attend future SOCCR-2 author meeting(s)/webinar(s) (likely in Fall 2017/Spring 2018) to engage in discussions regarding revised draft development.
5. Review author responses to review comments (as well as revised chapter drafts, as appropriate).
6. As called upon, assist the Lead Authors, the Fed Steering Committee, U.S. Carbon Cycle Science Program Leadership, the SOCCR-2 science leads and the USGCRP Leadership in crafting a response to the NAS report that succinctly describes programmatic approach to address recommendations.
7. Submit a final record for each assigned chapter, certifying that the public review comments were duly considered and highlighting any contentious issues that required intervention. Review Editors may be consulted regarding comments or suggested edits emanating from additional rounds of review, but have no formal role or responsibilities beyond those in steps (1) through (6).

**Reporting:** For each assigned chapter, a written report to the Federal Steering Committee (composed of members of the CCIWG federal agencies and the U.S. Carbon Cycle Science Program Office) needs to be submitted. These reports focus on the comments submitted as part of the Public Comment Period. A template has been provided on the following page. REs also provide input for the formal response to the NAS report, to be drafted by the SOCCR-2 Federal Steering Committee, SOCCR-2 Science Leads, and USGCRP leadership.

### **Dates of Commitment** (*Subject to change*)

July 30, 2017	Deadline for nominations for Review Editors
August 7, 2017	Review Editors selection by Federal Steering Committee & notification of selection
Fall 2017-Early Winter 2018	Read SOCCR-2 draft during public review phase
Early Spring 2018	Review comments submitted by public and NAS
Early Spring 2018	Attend author meeting in Washington, DC and/or remote webinar(s)/telecon(s)
Spring 2018	Review author responses to review comments and work with authors to ensure adequate responses
Spring 2018	Submit final record to Federal Steering Committee

**Appendix 1: Template of written report from Review Editor to the Federal Steering Committee**

**SOCCR-2 Review Editors**

**Review of Responses to Comments**

I served as a Review Editor for Chapter(s) \_\_\_\_, <title(s)> of the 2<sup>nd</sup> State of the Carbon Cycle Report (SOCCR-2).

I reviewed all comments submitted on the Assigned Chapter(s) and the responses of the Chapter Lead(s) for the Assigned Chapter(s).

I certify that the Chapter Lead(s) considered all review comments and provided adequate written responses.

- o I confirm that I have identified any areas of concern on the response matrix that was provided (or in another written format).
- o I have \_\_\_\_\_ or have not \_\_\_\_\_ contacted the Chapter Lead(s) to discuss my comments.
- o Issues that I believe require special attention are:

Comment ID #	Issue and suggested resolution

Add rows as needed

Signed	
Name	
Date	

## Appendix 2: Background

In 2015, the Carbon Cycle Interagency Working Group (CCIWG), via the U.S. Carbon Cycle Science Program, initiated plans for the 2<sup>nd</sup> State of the Carbon Cycle Report (SOCCR-2) as a follow-up to the [1<sup>st</sup> SOCCR \(2007\) which was a Synthesis and Assessment Product \(SAP 2.2\)](#) of the USGCRP and input to the 2<sup>nd</sup> National Climate Assessment (NCA), and as a product of the [Sustained National Climate Assessment](#). **Led by the CCIWG, under USCGRP auspices and with USDA as the administrative lead, this federal interagency report** is currently in development and estimated to be published in early 2018.

The focus of SOCCR-2 is on the scientific understanding of U.S. and North American carbon cycle stocks and fluxes, in the context of and interactions with global scale budgets and climate change impacts in managed and unmanaged systems. Carbon stocks and fluxes in soils, water (including oceans), vegetation, aquatic-terrestrial interfaces (coastal/ estuaries/ wetlands), human settlements, agriculture, forestry etc. are included. Relevant carbon management science perspectives and tools for supporting decisions, as addressed in and related to the [US Carbon Cycle Science Plan \(2011\)](#) and [U.S. National Climate Assessment](#), [USGCRP 2012-2021 Strategic Plan](#) and [Global Change Research Act \(GCRA\)](#) of 1990 are included in this assessment. In addition to identifying uncertainties, new and emerging opportunities for improving measurements and projections of the carbon cycle are identified.

The 30-day Federal Register Notice (FRN) (released on February 12, 2016) by USDA-NIFA, on behalf of the CCIWG and USGCRP, is available [here](#). The PDF of the FRN is available [here](#). The deadline for submission of nominations for contributors, technical input and comments on the [draft prospectus](#) was March 14, 2016. You may also see the finalized [Prospectus \(including a draft Table of Contents\)](#).

### Appendix 3: Draft Table of Contents and Chapter Structure provided to writing team

DRAFT TABLE OF CONTENTS			
Categories	Chapter #	State of the Science	Required sections for each chapter (modified in some chapters, as appropriate)
	I	Preface/motivation for the report/ advances since SOCCR-1	i. Key Message/ Findings/Highlights ( incl. traceable accounts with supporting evidence)
	II	Governmental, inter-governmental and interagency context	
	III	Executive Summary	
<b>Part I Synthesis</b>	1	What is the C cycle and why care/the C cycle in a global context	ii. Introduction
	2	North American C budget past, present, and future	iii. Historical context (incl. socioeconomic drivers of carbon emissions)
<b>Part II Human Dimensions of the C Cycle</b>	3	Energy Systems (incl. Transportation)	iv. Current State of Carbon Cycle Understanding of Fluxes and Stocks
	4	Urban	
	5	Agriculture	v. Indicators, Trends, Feedbacks
	6	Societal Perspective on Carbon	
	7	Tribal Lands	
<b>Part III: State of Air, Land and Water</b>	8	Atmosphere	vi. North American and Global Context, Regional Perspective <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">NCA regions</a></li> <li>• U.S., Mexico, Canada</li> <li>• Arctic, Tropics, <a href="#">RECCAP</a></li> </ul>
	9	Forests	
	10	Grasslands	
	11	Arctic/Boreal/Permafrost regions	vii. Societal drivers and impacts, carbon management and decisions
	12	Soils	
	13	Terrestrial wetlands	viii. Synthesis, conclusions, gaps in knowledge, and (near) future outlook <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• overarching synthesis of the current state of the carbon cycle</li> <li>• key knowledge gaps/ opportunities and</li> </ul>
	14	Inland waters	
	15	Tidal wetlands and estuaries (incl. blue carbon)	
	16	Oceans and continental Shelves (methane hydrates etc.)	
<b>Part IV: Consequences and ways forward</b>	17	Consequences of rising atmospheric CO2 (e.g., ocean acidification etc.)	near-term outlook on the North American carbon cycle
	18	Carbon cycle science in support of decision-making	
	19	Future projections and associated climate change in North America	